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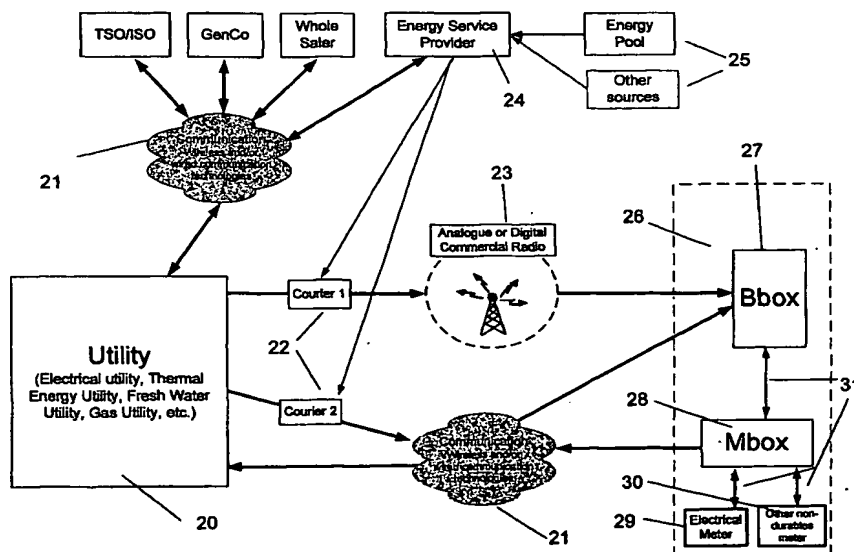
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(54) Title: A METHOD AND A SYSTEM FOR AUTOMATIC MANAGEMENT OF DEMAND FOR NON-DURABLES



(57) Abstract: Automatic management of demand for non-durables like electrical energy, gas, thermal energy and fresh water is provided by a two-way communication network between a Multi Utility provider (20) and many respective End-users (5). Specialized electronic boxes (27, 28) at the End-users' premises receive broadcast downlink signals from the Multi Utility provider (20), initiate metering action and transmit to the Multi Utility Provider uplink return signals containing instant or semi-instant non-durables consumption values, thereby collectively influencing the Multi Utility provider's pricing of non-durables.



*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*